

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 15-28 were pending. This amendment cancels claims 17 and 20. Thus, claims 15-16, 18-19, and 21-28 are pending.

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,942,761 to Tuli. Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated under U.S. Patent 5,862,248 to Salatino et al. Claim 16 is rejected under § 103 as obvious over Tuli '761 in view of Mainguet 6,289,114. Claims 17 and 20 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 15 has been amended by incorporating therein the limitations of Claim 17, and Claim 17 has been canceled. Independent Claim 18 has been amended by incorporating therein the limitations of Claim 20, and Claim 20 has been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 15 and 18 and all claims depending there from are assumed to be allowable. Applicant acknowledges that Claims 21-28 are allowed.

Claims 15 and 17, 20-23, 24, and 25-28 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory, obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over co-pending application no. 10/848,363 (now issued as U.S. Patent No.

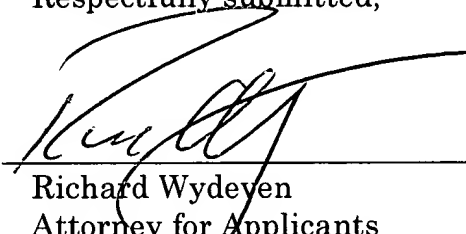
7,054,471) in view of Tuli 761. Applicants have filed herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2135. An additional copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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